

## Safety Advisory Committee

August 2, 2013

1:30 – 3:00 PM

### Minutes

Committee Member	Representing	Present
<i>vacant</i>	Materials Sciences Division	
Bello, Madelyn	Human Resources Advisor	<b>X</b>
Blodgett, Paul M.	Environment, Health and Safety Division	<b>X</b>
Bluhm, Hendrik	Chemical Sciences Division	
Christensen, John N.	Earth Sciences Division	<b>X</b>
Dardin, Steve	Physics Division	<b>X</b>
Floyd, Jim	Safety Advisory Committee Chair	<b>X</b>
Franaszek, Stephen	Genomics Division	<b>X</b>
Fujikawa, Brian	Nuclear Science Division	<b>X</b>
Giuntoli, Patricia	Computing Sciences Directorate	<b>X</b>
Lunden, Melissa	Environmental Energy Technologies Division	<b>X</b>
Martin, Michael C.	Advanced Light Source Division	
Sauter, Nicholas	Physical Biosciences Division	<b>X</b>
Seidl, Peter	Accelerator & Fusion Research Division	<b>X</b>
Taylor, Scott E.	Life Sciences Division	<b>X</b>
Tomaselli, Ann	Information Technology Division	<b>X</b>
Tucker, Eugene	Facilities Division	<b>X</b>
Thomas, Patricia M.	Safety Advisory Committee Secretary	<b>X</b>
Wong, Weyland	Engineering Division	<b>X</b>

**Others Present:** Howard Hatayama, Marcus Hertlein, David Kestell, Michael Kritscher, Robert Mueller, Jack Salazar, Theresa Triplett, Tammy Welcome

### **General Comments – Jim Floyd**

**Pressure Safety update** – Scott Robinson has assembled a team to look at pressure safety issues. Materials Sciences, Engineering, Facilities, and Advanced Light Source Divisions have people participating on the team. There is no formal SAC involvement. If other Divisions want to participate, they should contact Scott Robinson. The team is reviewing the ESH Manual (PUB-3000) chapter and providing clarifications and linkages. Some of the issues they are looking at include small pressurized containers in laboratories, items purchased as prefabricated units, the Activity Hazard Document/ Engineering Safety Note interface, and high-pressure liquid chromatography.

## **SAC Charter Discussion**

Jim Floyd presented a list of the safety policy reviews that have taken place since 2009. He found 32 issues (about 1 issue per month) mentioned in SAC agendas with reviews lasting from 1 month to 2 years. Some issues were more difficult than others. There have been SAC working groups and user input on most issues. Policy reviews can be initiated in response to Safety Concerns, corrective actions / lessons learned from incidents at LBNL or other institutions, changes in DOE Orders or regulations, regular scheduled reviews of ESH Manual chapters, LBNL management directives, or input from SAC. Most Safety Concerns have been traffic issues. Requirements Management policy requires all Requirements and Policy Manual policies to be reviewed at least every 3 years. Jim Floyd asked committee members to consider whether SAC should provide more overview of the process and direction of LBNL safety. There were questions about how we should measure success. One indication of success is when new policies are implemented smoothly without resistance from the research community. There has been more collaboration between SAC and EHS. Jim Floyd suggested that Division representatives consider involving more people, particularly younger personnel, in participating in safety policy development.

SAC is working on several important Risk Management initiatives:

- **Biosafety work authorizations** – The plan is to use the new Work Planning and Control system for bioauthorizations, with a graded, hazard-based approach to review and approval;
- **Low-level radioactive materials** – Policies and procedures are in the process of being developed, through the Requirements Management process;
- **Issues management** – A need has been identified to develop better systems for managing low-risk issues. The Corrective Action Tracking System (CATS) was improved by adding a “quick entry” feature. Howard Hatayama will be meeting with Glenn Kubiak to discuss funding for other proposed improvements.

Another important function of SAC is safety **Peer Reviews**. The process was improved to include more Division Director participation in determining the review scope and providing peer-to-peer feedback. Six reviews have been performed since the process was changed: Materials Sciences, Accelerator & Fusion Research, Earth Sciences, Environmental Energy Technologies, Nuclear Science, and Engineering (in progress). SAC should ask for feedback from the Division Directors before scheduling more reviews.

Because Jim Floyd has recently been appointed Director of the Environment / Health / Safety Division, SAC needs a **new Chairperson**, to avoid any conflict of interest. The most likely choice would be a current SAC member. Representatives should submit nominations to Jim Floyd, for consideration by the Lab Director. Jim Floyd leaves some thoughts for the new Chair and committee members to ponder:

- Should the primary role of SAC be to advise EHS, or Lab Management, or both?
- Are we looking at the right things?
- How does SAC affect and interact with the Safety Coordinators subcommittee?
- How do we keep the focus on safety, to avoid inertia and maintain a sense of urgency? Are we ready for another DOE Health, Safety, and Security audit?
- Will the Work Planning and Control system rollout change things?
- How can we involve younger researchers, to build awareness? We could involve them in issues that are meaningful to everyone at the Lab.
- How do we measure success? Ease of integration/buy-in to new policies? Improvement in accident statistics? Lab Management feedback at annual meeting?

Jim Floyd thanked the committee for their support, and the committee members thanked Jim Floyd for his service and leadership.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM  
Respectfully submitted, Patricia M. Thomas, SAC Secretary